

150
A
LETTER
TO A
MEMBER
OF THE
OCTOBER-CLUB:

S H E W I N G,

That to yield *Spain* to the Duke
of *Anjou* by a Peace, wou'd be
the Ruin of *Great Britain*. 12

It nomen Pacis dulce est, & ipsa res salutaris; sed
inter Pacem & Servitutem plurimum distat: Pax
est tranquilla Libertas, Servitus postremum om-
nium Malorum, non modo bello sed etiam morte
repellendum. Cic. 2 Philip.

L O N D O N;

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TO

M. M. B. R.

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GOVERNMENT

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36

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ibid.

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38, 39

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39, 40

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40

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40, 41, 42, 43

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43

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A
LETTER
TO A

MEMBER of the
October-Club, &c.

S I R,

NINE or ten Years ago I cou'd not but observe, as a thing very remarkable, the general Disposition of *England* to enter into the War; I am now more surpriz'd at the universal Impatience of all your Party for a Peace.

When I look back to the Beginning of this War, and take a View of the State of *Europe* at that time; *France* against us, and by her own native Strength almost a Match for all her Neighbours;

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*The Intro-
duction, or
Comparison
of our small
Hopes at
the Begin-
ning with
our great
Successes in
the Pro-
gress of the
War.*

the *Milaneze*, *Naples*, and the *Spanish Netherlands* in her possession; the whole *Spanish* Monarchy at her disposal; the Dukes of *Savoy* and *Mantua* assisting with the whole Forces of their Countrys to keep all *Italy* in her Subjection; the Electors of *Bavaria* and *Cologne*, with the Dukes of *Wolfenbuttle* and the *Hungarian* Malecontents her Allys, embroiling the Empire, and threatning the Imperial Dignity: to oppose this formidable Enemy the whole Force being that of the Emperor, with a Rebellion on each side of his exhausted Countrys, that of the *United Provinces* just ready to be overwhelm'd by Inundations of Armys from *France* and the *Spanish Netherlands*, and that of *England* divided by her Partys, and weary'd out by the former War: I say, when I consider this Conjuncture, I cannot but wonder that our Courage did not faint at the very Prospect; and surely nothing cou'd justify our undertaking this new War, but absolute Necessity, and the Apprehension of inevitable Ruin by Peace.

Again, When I remember the little Hopes we had at that time, I am astonish'd at our Successes, and present Acquisitions. The Duke of *Mantua* quite ruin'd; the Duke of *Savoy* brought over to our side; the *French* intirely driven out of *Italy*; and great Supplys drawn from hence against the common Enemy. The Dukes of *Wolfenbuttle* disarm'd; the Electors of *Bavaria* and *Cologne* depriv'd of their Dominions; the Rebellion of *Hungary*

gary almost extinguish'd ; and all *Germany* now at leisure to pursue the common Interest. Besides this, a Part even of *Spain* it-self has revolted, a new War has been kindled in that Country ; which, tho more easily supply'd on the part of *France* than of the Allies, has been hitherto carry'd on with pretty equal Advantage on both sides. But what is yet more than all the rest of our Successes, the *French* King is beaten out of the *Spanish Netherlands* ; his old Frontier, fortify'd with so much Cost, and so long held impregnable, in so few years wrested from him ; the Way in a manner laid quite open into his own Kingdom, and himself at last reduc'd to the unhappy Choice of either losing *France*, or yielding up the Kingdom of *Spain*.

So many Armys beaten ! Such successful Sieges ! Such vast Countrys recover'd ! What wou'd any Man have ask'd more of Almighty God in so short a time ? Or how cou'd the most sanguine Hopes have expected half so much ? It is plain that Providence must have fought on our side ; and yet something is to be attributed to the Wisdom of that Administration, which was bless'd with such unparallel'd Prosperity.

The *French* King himself seems almost stupify'd with all his Losses : He has been brought twice to sue for Peace ; but at the same time he sues for *Spain* and all her *Indian* Treasures, and wou'd still keep back the very thing we have been
so

so long fighting to recover. The Torys are melted with his Tears; they are for complying with his Petition; and wou'd fain persuade us, we may safely give him *Spain* for a Peace.

This is still more astonishing than all the rest, since by this Concession the *French* King without fighting wou'd in a few years be enabled to recover all that has been taken from him, and indeed to bring all *Europe* under his Dominion.

*The Design
of this
Letter, is*

I persuade my self a Person of your excellent Understanding cannot want Arguments to set you right in this matter: and I know your Authority will be very great with all those of your Party, whenever you shall think it necessary to lead them out of their present Error. The Design therefore of this Letter, is to offer as convincing Arguments as I am able, to shew that such a Peace as they so earnestly desire, wou'd be more ruinous to themselves and their Country, than the present War; that at least if they will leap into the Gulf, they may do it with their Eyes open.

to shew,

The Method I shall take to do this, shall be, by endeavouring to shew the following Particulars; viz. That giving *Spain* to the Duke of *Anjou*, will be giving it to the *French* King: That the latter will be enabled by this Gift to increase his own Security, Riches, and Power, and to distress, impoverish, and weaken all his Neighbours: That *Portugal*, *Brazile*, *Peru* and *Mexico* will soon
be

be oblig'd to submit to the *French* Dominion: That we shall be utterly depriv'd of all the most valuable Branches of our Trade; That we shall have no Income or Supplys of Mony by any Trade, or from any Country whatsoever: That we shall lose the annual Income of three Millions and a half, which is gain'd to the Kingdom by Trade even during the present War, and the Assurance of gaining a much greater Revenue by wresting *Spain* from the House of *Bourbon*: That as we shall gain nothing if the Duke of *Anjou* shou'd be settled upon the *Spanish* Throne, so we shall export or lose at least half a Million yearly till our whole Stock shall be wasted: That consequently Peace on the Terms so much desir'd, wou'd be worse than the present War by the yearly Sum of one Million, and worse than depriving the Duke of *Anjou* of that Kingdom by the yearly Sum of four Millions: That by such a Peace we shall lose Employment and Subsistence for one Million of Souls, or a sixth or seventh Part of our whole People: and lastly, That we shall lose three Fourths of the annual and total Value of all our Lands. I firmly believe our Losses wou'd be greater in every Article than what I have mention'd; but these will be sufficient: and if I shall be able to prove they will be as great as I have asserted, I persuade myself there is not an honest Man in *Great Britain*, who wou'd be pleas'd to accept a Peace upon such Terms, as the *French* King

King has hitherto thought fit to offer it. And yet the Administration has been traduc'd and vilify'd for not accepting such a Peace.

That giving Spain by a Peace to the D. of Anjou, is giving it to the French King.

I begin with the first thing I propos'd to prove, viz. That to give *Spain* by a Peace to the Duke of *Anjou*, wou'd be the same thing as to give it to the *French King*.

Indeed we have Politicians who pretend otherwise. They say the Duke of *Anjou* will in a little time become a perfect *Spaniard*; That Princes naturally aim at being Sovereign and Independent; That they easily forget all Tyes of Blood and other Obligations; That Gratitude is the Vertue of private Persons, and seldom or never practis'd betwixt Sovereign Princes. And these Politicks they endeavour to fortify by the Example of the Dukes of *Burgundy*, a younger Branch of the Royal Family of *France*: Yet never have there been more implacable Wars than betwixt those Familys, which were not at length extinguish'd but with the Life of the last Duke of *Burgundy*.

By this Argument these Gentlemen wou'd have dissuaded us from going into this War at first, when all the *Spanish* Towns in *Italy* and the *Netherlands* were garison'd by *France*. And now since all these Places are wrested out of their hands at so vast an Expence of Blood and Treasure by the Allys, the same Patriots make use of the very same Argument to persuade us to give up *Spain* to the

the *French* King, by which after a short breathing space he will be enabled to recover all the rest of that Monarchy, and indeed to bring all *Europe* under his Dominion.

For they know very well that to give *Spain* to the Duke of *Anjou*, is to give it to the *French* King. No doubt the former wou'd very gladly be a Sovereign, but it will never be in his power to throw off his Dependance upon *France*. And the Example of the Dukes of *Burgundy* is nothing to the purpose.

It is very true, the first of those Dukes took *Burgundy* as his Apanage from the Crown of *France*. But then by the Convenience of his Situation in the Neighbourhood of *Germany*, he cou'd easily confederate himself with the *German* Princes; he cou'd at any time draw Assistance from them sufficient to defend him against the most powerful Efforts of that Crown; he cou'd have subsisted as the little Republick of *Geneva* does at this day against *Switzerland*, *France*, and the Dukes of *Savoy*, by the mutual Jealousy of those States. But the Case of the Duke of *Anjou* is very different: The Kingdom of *Spain* lies too remote to receive Succours from us or our Allys, as we have sadly experienc'd in the whole Course of the present War; while on the other hand it lies always open to an Invasion from *France*, and there is no manner of Proportion betwixt the Strength of both Kingdoms.

A nearer Parallel therefore may be found to the present Case, in the Memoirs of *P. de Comines*, an Author of undoubted Credit, and well acquainted with the *Burgundian Wars*. A younger Brother of *Lewis* the XIth had the Choice given him of the Dutchy of *Guienne*, which lies on the side of *France* next *Spain* ; or the County of *Champagne*, which lies upon the Confines of the *Netherlands*, for his Apanage. He was advis'd by *Charles* of *Burgundy* to accept the latter, that he might be always at hand to assist him against the Insults of his Brother. But the young Prince imprudently chose the Dutchy of *Guienne*, where, indeed with a greater Title, he liv'd altogether at the Mercy of *Lewis*, and was by him shortly after remov'd from that Dutchy to a yet greater Title and less Power.

But whatever Opposition the Dukes of *Burgundy* might have made to *France*, it is certain they made none while they were only possess'd of that Dutchy ; so long they remain'd in a State of perfect Vassalage and Dependence. Indeed when afterwards, by Marriage or Inheritance, they became Masters of all the *Netherlands*, Countrys at that time, in the Judgment of *P. de Comines*, little or not at all inferior in Strength and Riches to the whole Kingdom of *France* ; it is no wonder if the Emulation, which is so natural between Sovereign and Neighbouring Princes, broke out into Hostilitys, and if the Dukes of *Burgundy* disclaim'd all manner

manner of Subjection to the *French* Kings, when indeed they were Equals. But this can never be the Case of the Duke of *Anjou* upon the Throne of *Spain*, a Country which lies always open to an Invasion, too remote to receive Assistance; and which by comparison of the Efforts, that for the space of forty years past have been made by both Kingdoms, can hardly be thought equivalent in Strength to one tenth part of *France*. The Duke of *Anjou* therefore may with more justice be compar'd to a Duke of *Guienne*, or any other mere Subject of the *French* King, than to those Sovereign Princes of the House of *Burgundy*.

But if there is so great a Disproportion between the Forces of both Kingdoms, it will be ask'd, What reason can be given why an *Austrian* Prince shou'd not live in *Spain*, as much at the Discretion of the *French* King as his own Grandson? The Answer is ready: The Emperor, the *Dutch*, the States of the Empire, and We (if we are not wanting to our selves) shall be unanimous to support the former. And the Experience of the present War has convinc'd the *French* King, that he will then have too much Work upon his hands to be at leisure for conquering. Now this Reason must needs cease, if the Duke of *Anjou* were upon that Throne. The House of *Austria* has had an Interest in preserving the *Spanish* Succession to it self; but when that Succession shall be once gone, will any Prince

of that Family concern himself in the Quarrels of the House of *Bourbon*? Certainly no more than in those of the *Sophy* and *Mogul*. Besides, the *French* King will not be able to attack an *Austrian* Prince upon the *Spanish* Throne, without carrying on a War at the same time against the *Spanish Netherlands*; and then the Danger is too near the *Dutch* not to interest them in the Quarrel. But so long as the *Netherlands* shall be quiet, the common People of *Holland*, and consequently their Rulers, will not easily be engag'd in a War for preserving *Spain* to the Duke of *Anjou*. And no Man in his Wits can think we shall undertake such a War by our selves, when we shall be once forsaken by the States and the Emperor. And thus *France* will be at leisure to give Law to the Duke of *Anjou*, and to govern *Spain* at Discretion.

This the *French* King knows very well, and therefore with all his Losses he is not yet humbled into Peace. Now can it be believ'd that he has sacrific'd the Lives of so many thousand Subjects, impoverish'd his whole Country, lost his best fortify'd Towns, plung'd himself into a Debt, which without *Spain* or a Sponge he will never be able to discharge; and that he has done and suffer'd all this only that the Duke of *Anjou* may be a Sovereign? Can it be thought the Grandfather has made himself Bankrupt, and his Heirs after him for ever, only that a younger Grandson may be independent, and

and chuse whether he will make him any Satisfaction for so great an Obligation? Is the Duke of *Burgundy* to inherit a Debt of a hundred Millions Sterling, only that his younger Brother may be always able to defy him? These are such Absurditys as will not pass upon the meanest Understanding; and tho very little can be said for the Honesty of the *French King*, he was never thought a Fool. But as the Acquisition of *Spain* has been the Pursuit of his whole Reign, it is now become necessary for his Affairs, that he may get the *Spanish Indies*, those Fountains of Mony, under his Dominion. By this he is to repair his Losses, satisfy the Debts of his Crown, restore publick Credit, and re-establish the Trade and Manufactures of his People. Hence proceeds that Unwillingness to part with *Spain*, that invincible Patience under so many Defeats, that Deafness to the Crys and Prayers of his poor Subjects, those insidious and delusive Treatys to divide the Allys, to get himself out of the War, and to leave us to recover *Spain* as we can, which he will be sure to make impracticable. That famous Saying of his, at his seizing the *Spanish Monarchy*, will never be forgotten, viz. That hereafter *France and Spain shall be as One*; that is, he shall govern both as his own. Whatever our Politicians may think, these are so many Arguments that he means nothing else than to unite the two Kingdoms.

But

But besides the Superiority of his Forces, by which he will be enabl'd, and the Necessity of his Affairs, by which he will be oblig'd to keep the Duke of *Anjou* in a State of Subjection and Dependance, he has his Garisons in the best fortify'd Places of *Spain*, under the Command of his own Officers. This must very much facilitate the Work, and keep the *Spaniards* to their good Behaviour: This will direct all the Views and Applications of the Nobles and Grandees to the *French* Court; and as for the common People, since their *Cortez* or Parliaments have been laid aside, they are no more to be regarded than so many Women and Children. All the Preferments of *Spain* will be given at the Court of *France*. The Duke of *Anjou* will perhaps be suffer'd for a time to live with the Pomp and Splendor of a Court, but the real Government will remain in *France*; at *Madrid* will be seen the Shadow of a King, whilst the Substance is at *Versailles*.

I believe when all these things are consider'd, I shall be thought to have prov'd, that to give up *Spain* by a Peace to the Duke of *Anjou*, is to give it the *French* King; that the latter will have the whole Government of that Kingdom, and will rule it as his Own.

That the
Fr. K. will
govern
Spain so
as shall
best in-
crease his
own Secu-
rity, &c.

That is, he will govern *Spain* in such a manner as shall best conduce to increase the Security, Riches and Power of his own Dominions, and most effectually distress, impoverish and weaken all his Neighbours.

First,

First, For the Security of his new Government, he will (as he has done in the *Netherlands*) erect and maintain Citadels in their great Towns, at the charge of the Inhabitants. By these he will be able to suppress the first Motions of every Insurrection or Sedition. And we may depend upon it, that no cost will be spar'd to improve the Fortifications of *Cadiz*, not only for that reason, but because it is the Key of all their *Indian* Riches. This therefore he will be sure to keep in his own hands, the better to assure himself of the Fidelity of the People. There will be no fear of their revolting from a Prince, who has the Custody of their Riches; since we are taught by the best Authority that ever was, that where the Treasure is, there also will be the Heart. But to make any Revolt impracticable, there will be plac'd every where *French* Garisons, under the Command of *French* Officers.

However; to make amends to the *Grande*es and other Noblemen for the Loss of these Employments, their Sons and younger Brothers will be invited into *France*, to take Commands upon the *Rhine* and in the *Netherlands*; and these will be so many honourable Hostages for the Fidelity of their whole Familys. This was usually practis'd by the old *Romans*, with good Success; and the same Cause must needs produce the same Effect in every other Government.

When in this manner sufficient Caution and Security shall be taken of the great Familys,

Familys, there cannot be the least reason
 to apprehend any Danger from the com-
 mon People. These poor Wretches will
 have only chang'd their Master; they
 were miserable before, and can but re-
 main so under the Government of *France*;
 they may think they have a Chance at
 least to have their Servitude made lighter.
 And what Reason is there then to be-
 lieve they will be discontented at the
 Change? Are they in danger of suf-
 fering Persecution for Conscience-sake
 from a Prince of their own Religion,
 and as Catholick as themselves? Are they
 likely to be more burden'd with Taxes
 for the Defence of their Country, when
France shall become their Friend, or ra-
 ther a part of the same Country, and
 is so happily interpos'd by her Situa-
 tion between *Spain* and other Enemys?
 But to remove all possible ground of Dis-
 content: Why should we not believe that
 the *French* King, to provide the better for
 the Subsistence of the People, will pro-
 mote and encourage their Manufactures,
 as much as shall be practicable, in so deso-
 late a Country, and so thinly inhabited?

It is indeed the Policy of all wise Go-
 vernors, and conduces very much to
 their own Security, to prevent the Com-
 plaints and Murmurings of the People,
 by helping every one to sutable Employ-
 ments, and especially by enabling the
 Poor to subsist by their own Labour.
 For this end they carefully preserve and
 keep at home the first Materials and
 Founda-

Foundations of all considerable Manufactures. This is the Reason of our many severe Laws to hinder the carrying Wool and Fulling Earth out of *England*: and for the same Reason so many foreign Manufactures are either prohibited with us, or loaded with such Dutys as amount to Prohibitions; whilst the raw Silks of *Aleppo*, and the unwrought Wools of *Spain*, are admitted upon easy Terms to furnish Work for our People. And why shou'd it be thought that the *French* King will not pursue the same Maxims which the wisest Governors have practis'd in other Nations, and which he himself has always practis'd in his own? Why shou'd not he, with as much reason as our Princes, prohibit the Exportation of Wool from his Dominions, and take as effectual Care to be obey'd? The Consequence of this must be, that all the *Spanish* Wool will come to be wrought up in *Spain* and *France*, and no other Country will be let in for any Share. Our Gentlemen fondly flatter themselves, that *English* Wool and *English* Earth are necessary Ingredients in the finest *Spanish* Cloth; but every *Wiltshire* Clothier is able to inform them otherwise: and how shou'd *Holland* come at either? And yet they equal any other Place both in Quantity and Quality of this noble Manufacture. If then the *French* King shall be left to govern *Spain* as his own, he will, for the better employing his People, keep all the *Spanish* Wool

Wool within his own Dominions; at least he will never endure that his own Subjects shou'd sit still and starve, and that the Money of his Countrys shou'd be carry'd out to purchase the Labour of other People.

2. *Riches.* For, *Secondly*, It is the Policy of all wise Governors, by all possible ways, to enrich their own Subjects, from whom they can always take at discretion as much as shall be necessary for their Occasions. The Political Laws and Institutions of all Nations are adapted to this end; they all encourage the bringing in of Bullion, and discourage the carrying any out. They suffer their own Manufactures to go out free, and will not permit those of other Countrys to be imported without excessive Dutys; they endeavour to enrich their own Subjects by the Consumption of foreign People, rather than Foreigners by the Consumption of their own Subjects. Such is always the Conduct of wise States, with relation to foreign Trade, whilst all Manufactures and other Goods are sold and exchange'd free between Subjects of the same Sovereign; as the Sales of Goods betwixt *London* and *Wiltshire* are without Customs or Dutys. I shall beg leave therefore, in the first place, to observe a difference between *France* and *Spain*, and then shew what use the *French* King will make of these Rules and Maxims in the Government of his united Kingdoms.

France

France abounds with native Commodities and Manufactures, not only sufficient for the use of her own People, but also to supply the Wants of very many of her Neighbours. There are no Mines of Gold or Silver in this Kingdom; all their Money is imported from other Countries, in exchange for their Manufactures. On the other hand, *Spain* has few Conveniences of Life, not enough for her own People, much less for her Subjects in *America*; but then she draws such Supplies of Money from her Mines of *Peru* and *Mexico*, as are sufficient to procure all other Things. Thus the Bullion, which is every Year imported into *Spain*, is as often distributed among other *European* Nations; and to this Fountain perhaps are owing nine tenth Parts of the current Coin of every Country.

Thus then the *French* King will apply the aforesaid Maxims to the Government of his united Kingdoms; he will discharge all Customs upon all Goods imported from each Kingdom to the other, whilst all those imported from any other Country into either shall be loaded with excessive Dutys. There is no doubt but the *Spaniards* will rather buy cheap from the *French*, that is, from their Fellow Subjects, than pay a double Price for the Goods of other Countries, one to the Foreign Merchant, and another to their own Prince. The Consequence is, The Bullion or Money, which flows every Year into *Spain*, will

find its last Settlement in *France*, to the vast enriching of that Nation.

3. *Power.*

Lastly, The *French* King's Increase of Power is a necessary Consequence of the Increase of his Security and Riches. *Spain* heretofore has been a very troublesome Neighbour to *France* by her Native Strength; and is still able, by her convenient Situation, and her Alliance with the Empire, *England*, and the *United Provinces*, to give her very great Disturbance. But if I have prov'd that by the Accession of *Spain* to his Dominions, the *French* King will be able to make all things quiet there, it follows that he will be secure from any Invasion on that side; and the Armys, which he has usually imploy'd there, together with the Forces he will be always able to draw from thence, will make a great Addition to his Power against all his other Neighbours.

If I have also prov'd, that the Accession of this Kingdom will make a great Addition to his Riches; and if it is certain, that Money is the very Sinews of War, as that which hastens the Levys, clothes the Soldier, fortifies the Frontier, furnishes the Magazine, and prepares the Train of Artillery; then, without doubt, the Increase of his Power is a necessary Consequence of increasing the Riches of his Kingdom.

As

As the giving up *Spain* to the Duke of *And so as*
Anjou makes so great an Addition to the *shall most*
 Riches and Power of the *French* King, it *effectually*
 must consequently enable him to distress,
 impoverish and weaken all his Neigh-
 bours.

But to consider this matter more par-
 ticularly: By the convenient Situation of
 the Harbours of *Cadiz* and *Gibraltar*, he
 will be always able to secure a Naval
 Force sufficient to distress, if not to
 command, the Entrance into the *Mediterranean*. There is no reason why he
 shou'd not chuse rather to lodg his whole
 Fleet at *Cadiz* than at *Toulon*. And what
 then shall hinder his establishing a Toll in
 the *Straits*, as the King of *Denmark* has
 done within the *Sound*? and a much more
 grievous Toll, as he will have more Pow-
 er to maintain it? If this can be done, his
 own Subjects only will be suffer'd to pass
 free: all other Nations must either submit
 to the Imposition, or dispute it by their
 Convoys; the Merchant must trade as it
 were in Armour; either the Toll, or the
 Convoy, shall eat out the Profit of the
 Voyage. It is easy to be seen, that by
 such a Conduct so much of the *Mediterranean*
 Trade will be lost as depends upon
 that Passage, the two great Maritime Pow-
 ers will be absolutely excluded, and the
 raw Silks of the *Levant* suffer'd to come no
 farther from Home than into the *French*
 Dominions. If

If the *French* King can do this, if he can prohibit the Exportation of *Spanish* Wool from his own Countrys, if he can also prevent the Importation of Manufactures from the Countrys subject to the two Maritime Powers; what prodigious Numbers of their Subjects must either mutiny for want of Employment, or starve for want of Bread? And will not these Potentates be distress'd by so great a Charge of Subjects upon their hands, or by the Seditions of their People?

*Impove-
rish,*

Again, it is certain both *England* and *Holland* must part with great Quantities of Bullion, or Mony, every Year for Naval Stores, and other Necessarys: and if this Loss is not to be supply'd from *Spain*, or other Countrys (as will be shewn hereafter, if *Spain* shall be given up) then our Poverty is inevitable.

But, to make the quicker Dispatch of our Riches, *France* her self will take a great deal off our Hands; that Prince will allow his Subjects to sell us Wines, Fashions, and Luxury, and we shall be sure to have them a great Pennyworth. Tho it wou'd seem strange that our Gentlemen, so famous for *October*, shou'd all on a sudden become so enamour'd of *French* Wines, as to desert their *English* Manufacture; that they shou'd be so eager to enrich the Vinedressers of our Enemies, and to im-
poverish

povertish their own Tenants: for it cannot be imagin'd that Gentlemen wou'd do this for a safer Way of holding Correspondence with *France*, and paying an annual Tribute to *St. Germain's*. But tis needless to pursue this Argument any farther, since nothing can be more evident, than that the *French* King, by adding *Spain* to his other Dominions, must impoverish his Neighbours.

What a bright Figure then shall we *And wea-*
make in *Europe*? What noble Efforts a- *ken his*
gainst the Great, the Rich, the Powerful *Neighbors.*
King of *France*? What wonderful Armys
shall we not be able to raise from among our
own People, when they shall be destitute
of all other Employment, and starving
for want of Bread? It is no matter for
Clothes or Pay, Arms or Ammunition;
these things we shall find among our Ene-
mys: and shall we not, with the greatest
Intrepidity, rush on naked against an arm-
ed Prince for the Plunder of his Coun-
trys? No certainly, we shall understand
our selves a great deal better; if we are
not able to keep this Prince down when
we have him under, if we shall suffer him
to raise himself again upon our Ruins, we
must hereafter contract our Schemes, and
become humble Supplicants to his most
Christian Majesty to have some Compassion
of our Miserys. Doubtless, in his good
Nature, he will condescend so far to our
Prayers, as to grant us a Viceroy and a
new

new Religion. And this perhaps is the Reason why some Persons are so much in haste for a Peace, and for giving *Spain* to the Duke of *Anjou*; they know very well we shall be reduc'd to all this Poverty and Weakness, and they wou'd fain have the Viceroy and the Religion upon any Terms whatsoever.

To give
Spain to
the Fr.
King, is al-
so to give
him Por-
tugal.

But tho our Ruin must come on apace, 'twill fall to the King of *Portugal's* Share to be dispatch'd first. That Prince is unhappily situated, at too great a distance from his Allies, to expect any seasonable Succours from them; and without large Assistance from *France*, has always been so unable to resist the single Attacks of *Spain*, when she had no other Work upon her Hands, that 'tis not likely he shou'd now withstand the united Powers of both Kingdoms.

Portugal was heretofore conquer'd in the short space of seventy days by *Philip* the Second of *Spain*; and without doubt will be oblig'd to submit to a much superior Strength, in less time than is usually imploy'd in the Sieges of great Citys.

The *Spaniards* begin already to treat that Prince as their Rebel Duke of *Braganza*: and if *France* and *Spain* shou'd be united, happy had it been for him if that were still the highest Title in his Family,

Family; he wou'd not then be forc'd to change a Throne for a Prison, which upon the Union of the two Crowns he cannot avoid, unless by Banishment or Death.

The King of *Portugal* owes his Establishment upon that Throne to the Assistance of *French* Power; and if he has lately had political Reasons to forget the Obligation, his most Christian Majesty seldom fails to have a good Memory in such Cases.

But if all other Reasons shou'd fail, it will be in the Power of the *French* King, and it will also be his Interest to join *Portugal* to his other Dominions; and that is Reason sufficient. Arbitrary and violent Princes are seldom guided by any other Principles than those of Interest and Power.

This Conquest then will easily be made, and as easily retain'd. The *French* King will assure himself of the Fidelity of this Province, by the same Arts and Methods as of that of *Spain*. He will make use of the like Policy in both Countries to increase his own Riches, and to impoverish all his Neighbours. He will either prohibit or burden the Manufactures of other Nations in such a manner, that it shall be the Interest of *Portugal* to buy only those of his Subjects.

jects. And hence all their yearly Supplies of Money from *Brazil* will be carry'd into *France*, whilst no other Nation will be let in for any share of those Riches.

As also Peru, Mexico, and Brazil, with their Mines.

Thus those vast Colonys of *Peru*, *Mexico* and *Brazil*, which have hitherto furnish'd the current Coin and all the Bullion in *Europe*, will be oblig'd hereafter to work their Mines for the sole Benefit of the *French* King and his Subjects. This I think is not to be avoided, unless those Colonys shall separate themselves from the Jurisdiction of their Mother-Countrys, and lay open their Ports to the Merchants of all Nations; or unless the two Maritime Powers shall be able to possess themselves of their Mines, or to intercept their Gallions.

But if we shall leave *Spain* and *Portugal* at the Mercy of the *French* King, what reason have we to imagine that their *American* Colonys will not follow the Fate of their Mother-Countrys, and remain subject to the same Power? Was not *Brazil* always under the Jurisdiction of *Spain* during the Servitude of *Portugal*? And did not this Country and their Colony both revolt at the same time? And have not all our own Plantations gone hand in hand with *England* thro all the Changes of our Government?

vernment? Indeed all Colonys are so closely link'd with their Mother-Countrys, and by so many Endearments, that those of *Spain* and *Portugal* do not give us the least hopes of a voluntary Separation.

And if they will not separate of themselves, shall we be able to compel them? Shall we undertake the Conquest of those vast Countrys? Or how else is it that we are to become Masters of all their Mines? Have we sufficiently consider'd the great distance of *America*, the prodigious Extent of those Colonys, the Preparations necessary to reduce them, the Charge of transporting Forces, Artillery and Magazines to Countrys, which abound indeed with Silver, and want almost all other Necessaries of Life? If we wou'd but duly consider any one of these things, we shou'd soon be convinc'd that such a Conquest is impracticable. Again, if to this we wou'd add the Unhealthiness of those Climates, especially to New-comers, and the Devastations they have made in *Spain* and *Portugal*, by drawing off vast Numbers of their People, we shou'd soon abandon all Thoughts of so romantick an Expedition.

So that the only thing left for us is to intercept their Plate-Fleets; but how few of those Ships have been taken by

their Enemys since the first Discovery of *America*? They have no narrow Straits to pass, nor we to lie in wait; they have the whole Ocean to range in, and so great a Latitude to escape us, that the few Prizes which may happen to be taken will not answer one tenth part of the Charge of the Fleets which shall be fitted out for that Service.

Those Countrys then must remain all alike under the Jurisdiction of the *French* King, who will undoubtedly regulate their Commerce in such a manner, that no part of their Riches shall be diverted from his own Subjects. This is the Practice of all wise States in their own Colonys; *Quebec* and *Martineco* are thus administer'd by *France*, and so are our *West-Indies* and the Northern Continent of *America* by *England*. Our Act of Navigation has disabled all Strangers to carry off their Sugars or Tobaccos, which are the Staples of those Provinces. And we, no doubt, shall be so narrowly watch'd hereafter, that it will no longer be in our Power to sell Negros to the *Spaniards*; *France* will undertake that whole Work herself, and we shall consequently be depriv'd of that Branch of our *African* Trade, which makes the greatest Returns of Bullion into *England*.

And the
most profi-
table part
of our A-
frican
Trade.

I pre-

I presume I have sufficiently prov'd, that to give up *Spain* to the Duke of *Anjou*, is to give it to the *French* King; and not only to give him *Spain*, but *Portugal* too, all the *Spanish* and *Portuguese* *Indies*, a great part of our Trade to *Africa*, and our whole Trade into the *Mediterranean*. We are no longer to expect either Wool from *Spain*, or Silk from the *Levant*; we shall for ever be depriv'd of those necessary means for the *Employment* of our People. And what is still worse, those *Fountains* of *Mony*, from whence we have drawn such constant *Supplies*, will be lost for ever to this Kingdom.

I proceed therefore, in the next place, *An Estimate* to make some *Estimate* of those *Losses*. *mate of our* I believe it will then be evident, That *Losses by* by giving up *Spain* we shall pay very *yielding* dear for a Peace; That instead of getting *Spain to* rid of our Taxes, this is the ready way *the Duke* of *Anjou*. to increase them; and That the Charges of this Peace will be greater than even those of an everlasting War: of which, Thanks be to God, her Majesty's Arms have made too great an Impression upon *France*, to leave us under the least Apprehension.

The *Losses* then, which are the un- *i. Of an* avoidable Consequences of this Peace, *Income of* are either of the yearly *Incomes* of *Mony by* *foreign* *Trade*.
ny *Trade*.

ny into this Kingdom, or of that which is already in our possession, or of the means of Subsistence for our common People, or of so much Value of our Lands.

Our Income from Trade three Millions and a half, and equal to one third part of all the Rents in England.

To consider these in order: It were easy to shew here our annual Income or Ballance of Mony from Trade, by a Deduction of our particular Trades with Spain, Portugal, the Spanish Indies, and the Netherlands. I do not mention those of the Mediterranean, or other Countrys, which furnish indeed great Imployment for our People, yet make us no immediate Returns of Mony. The whole Income from our Trade is not less, during the present War, than three Millions and a half; which I believe will be allow'd to be equal to one third part of all the Rents in England.

For the *East-Country* for Naval Stores, and the *East-Indies* for their Manufactures, draw not much less than a Million from us every year; and during the present War there goes out more than double that Sum to maintain our Armys Abroad, and to pay the Subsidys to the Princes in our Alliance: To say nothing of those Quantities of Gold and Silver that are consum'd in the Clothes and Ornaments of People of Condition.

Now

Now 'tis certain, we have no other Supplies than from *Spain, Portugal,* and their *American* Colonys, or other Countrys which are furnish'd by them, except some small Parcels of Gold-Dust from *Guinea*, not enough for the Trimmings of our Clothes; and if those Supplies are not sufficient to answer our Expences, our Decay must needs be sensible. If our annual Expences shou'd have exceeded our Income in only one Million, we shou'd have been long since ended by a Consumption; a War of almost Twenty Years Continuance must have exhausted every Shilling out of the Kingdom.

But, on the contrary, we flourish more than ever in the Splendor of our Equipages, in the Magnificence of our Buildings, in the Furniture of our Houses. More Plate is seen in private Families, tho so much has been call'd in and melted down by Authority. And to compleat the Demonstration, no Fund of great Advantage is offer'd, which is not fill'd in four and twenty hours.

Perhaps it may be objected, that the Case may be the same with a Nation as with a private Gentleman; the Gentleman may exceed in the Splendor of his Living, whilst his Debts and Interest eat him out: in like manner, we may be indebted to foreign Nations for all our glittering Appearances. And
it

it must be confess'd that even Foreigners have given us Credit upon our Funds to the Value of Four or Five Millions, which, in order as they become due, we shall be oblig'd to repay with Interest.

Now to this I answer, in the first place, That the Decay of the Gentleman in that Case is visible; he runs over Head and Ears in Debt, till he is torn to pieces by his Creditors; whilst *England* goes on with all this Splendor, without any fear of Danger from foreign Nations. Tho we have so great annual Payments to make Abroad, the Course of Exchange is generally in our Favour; which is but another manner of expressing, That to save the Charge of transporting Mony, Foreigners give more for the Payment of their Debts in *England*, than the *English* for the Payment of theirs Abroad. It will follow then, that more becomes annually due to *England* from Abroad, than from *England* to foreign Nations, and consequently more than the three Millions, which is annually paid to the *East-Country*, to the *East-Indies*, and to the foreign War. And this Debt can no otherwise become due to us, than by the Balance of our Trade.

For, Secondly, I answer, It is not the Mony which Foreigners lend at Interest
upon

upon our Funds, which makes the Course of Exchange in our Favour. This Debt to Foreigners, which is suppos'd to be Four or Five Millions, has been Twenty Years contracting, and if equally distributed into years, wou'd be inconsiderable for any one: And 'tis certain, that the Credit given by our own People in this whole time, is four or five times of that value. And since we have not mortgag'd our Lands to Foreigners to make these voluntary Contributions to the Government; and since also it appears by our Customhouse Entrys that our Stock in Trade is not less at this time than it was before the Revolution, it is manifest that all this Money lent by our own Countrymen to the Publick, has since that time been acquir'd and imported into *England*. The Credit then which is given by our own People upon the publick Funds, is not only sufficient to ballance that of Foreigners, but also to demonstrate that we import at least Five Hundred Thousand Pounds *per annum* more than is paid Abroad by *England*, even during the present War, upon any pretence whatsoever; or if three Millions are exported, yet at least three Millions and a Half are return'd upon the Ballance of all our Trades, which was the thing I undertook to prove.

E

I have

Which will
be all lost
by yielding
Spain to
the D. of
Anjou.

I have been more tedious than I wou'd have been in arguing this matter, and therefore I must beseech you not to forget the very End of my Argument, which was to shew how much Income of Mony we shall lose by the Cession of *Spain* to the Duke of *Anjou*, and its unhappy Consequences. I think I had prov'd before, that in consequence of that Cession we must lose all our Supplies or Incomes of Mony upon the Ballance of our Trades with *Spain*, *Portugal*, *Holland*, and the *Spanish* and *Portuguese America*: and if I have just now prov'd that our present annual Incomes of Mony from those Trades are three Millions and a half, or five hundred thousand Pounds per ann. over and above our Payments to the War and other foreign Expences; the Consequence is clear, That all this Income will be lost, and we shall give more for our Peace, than one third part of all the Rents in *England*.

The Resti-
tution of
Spain to
the House
of Austria
wou'd
make our
Income of
Mony by all
our Trades
3 Millions
and a half
over and
above all
Expences.

If by Peace, and the Duke of *Anjou* upon the *Spanish* Throne, our Condition will be so much worse with respect to our Income of Mony than during the present War; how much worse will it be, than if it shou'd please God to restore Peace to us, and *Spain* to the House of *Austria*? In this last case all those Payments to the War, or the annual Expence of two Millions will be sav'd, and

con-

consequently so much of our annual Income. And then as no new Funds will be created to divert the Subjects Money to their own; not the Nation's Profit, some part of these two Millions will be laid out every year in Land, and increase the Value of Purchases; but the greatest part will be added to our Capital Stock in Trade, to the farther great Increase of our annual Income from abroad. And 'tis reasonable to imagine that the Restitution of *Spain*, with a full Trade to that and all other Countrys, will still add a Million to our Income. Then it evidently follows, that by Peace and King *Charles* upon the *Spanish* Throne, our annual Income of Money from abroad, will be four Millions and a half, whereas our annual Expences to the *East-Country* and the *East-Indies* will not exceed one; that is to say, our Income or Ballance will be three Millions and a half, clear of all foreign Payments and Disbursements, all which will be lost by giving *Spain* to the Duke of *Anjou*: for by that we shall have no more Money from abroad.

But if we are to buy our Peace upon this wretched Condition, our Loss of Income will not be all; our present Stock of Money must consume apace. Great Quantities of Bullion must either be sent to other Countrys, or wasted at home: but how much, and by what means, is in the next place to be considered.

First then it is confess'd we shall save all those Payments to the War, and to the Princes in our Alliance. Indeed such vast Expences, and no Supplys, wou'd make an end of us all at once.

In the next place, it is probable we shall entirely prohibit the *East-India* Trade, which will prevent the Exportation of about five hundred thousand Pounds *per ann.* For tho I believe that Trade has been hitherto very beneficial, and the Cause of importing more Money into *England* than any other; yet when we can no longer export any new Supplys, we shall never endure a Trade by which our whole present Stock of Money must be exhausted.

Our *Eastland* Trade for Naval Stores is thought at this time to take off about as much as that of the *East-Indies*: But we shall not export so much hereafter, since we shall not want so great a quantity of Naval Stores after our Loss of so many other Trades. We shall want none for our *East-India* Fleets, since for the reason just now given we shall abandon that Trade of our selves: We shall want none for the *Mediterranean*, since I have prov'd before that all that Trade will be taken from us: We shall want none for so much of our Sugars and Tobacco's as we have usually sold to our Neighbours

hours for Mony; that is, for at least one half of our *West-India* Trade, since no more Mony can be imported; We shall want none for so much of our *African* Fleets as were only Carriers to the *Spaniards*, since I have shewn that all that Work will be taken out of our hands by the *French*. And lastly we shall want none for the rest of our *African* Trade, since we shall lose our foreign Markets for Sugars and Tobacco's; and the Negroes already living upon our Plantations, are more than sufficient to supply our own People. It is probable we shall save in these Articles the Expence of three hundred thousand Pounds, which is usually exported to purchase Naval Stores, if that shall be thought a Benefit.

All the Naval Stores then we shall want, will be for our Colliers, our Coasters, and so many of our Fleets as are employ'd in importing Goods from our Plantations for our own Use, or in exchanging Goods for Goods with our Neighbours; for which perhaps we shall be oblig'd to export two hundred thousand Pounds *per ann.* Tho I believe in this case it were better for us to repeal our Act of Navigation, and to let our Neighbours be the Carriers, by which even this Expence wou'd be also sav'd.

Besides this, I do not know of any other Quantities of Gold or Silver we shall

shall be oblig'd to part with, except what shall either be carry'd into *France*, or wasted here in *England*. Our Gentlemen have such refin'd Palates, that they are not able to live without *French Wines*; and we shou'd lose all the Splendor of our Theatres, if but one single Orice were wanting in the Circle. I believe it is but just to add to the former Account three hundred thousand Pounds *per ann.* upon these Articles. But if five hundred thousand Pounds *per ann.* or even less Sums, are to be lost, and no way to be repair'd, our Gentlemen will be glad in a few years to return again to their *October*, when it shall be too late to save themselves or their Country; and our Ladys instead of shining in Tissue or Cloth of Gold, must be forc'd to work for a Living in home-spun *English Kersey*, like true *English Housewives*.

I think nothing need be added to this Argument of Money, but only like the Merchants to cast up the Ballance at the foot of the Account, which is as follows.

During the present	
War our annual In-	
come is three Millions	
and a half, our annual	
Expence three Millions;	500,000 <i>l.</i> <i>per ann.</i>
so that our Income ex-	
ceeds our Expence in	
the Sum of ———	

But

But if it shall please
 God to restore us Peace
 by placing King *Charles*
 upon the Throne of
Spain, our Income will
 be four Millions and a } 3,500,000*l. per ann.*
 half, our Expence a-
 bout one; so that our
 Income will exceed our
 Expence in the Sum of

Now by Peace, with
 the Duke of *Anjou* upon
 that Throne, our In- } 500,000*l. per ann.*
 come will be nothing,
 and our Expence—

So that this last Peace
 is worse even than the } 1,000,000*l. per ann.*
 present War in the
 Sum of—

And worse than re-
 covering *Spain* to the } 4,000,000*l. per ann.*
 House of *Austria*, by
 the Sum of—

If any Man thinks we shall ballance so
 great a Loss by our Returns from the
South-Sea, I must declare my self one of
 those sanguine Persons who hope for very
 good Effects from that Trade. Yet I
 perswade my self we shall not give up
Spain with a certain yearly Income of so
 many

many Millions *Sterling*, before the Experiment shall be made, whether a Trade can be carry'd on in the *South-Sea* in spite of the *French* and *Spanish* Nations, or what Sums of Money may be annually expected from it. If I were the greatest Minister that ever was in *England*, I shou'd not be the Adviser of such a Peace, for fear of being torn in pieces by the People, when their Feeling shall have restor'd them to their other Senses.

*The Loss of
an Income
by Trade of
3 Millions,
is the Loss
of Subsistence for
500,000
People.*

For our first Loss of our whole Income of Money from abroad, will go a great way in proving our second, viz. The Loss of Employment and Subsistence for our People.

I think it is sufficiently prov'd that our annual Gain or Income upon the Ballance of our Trades with *Spain*, *Portugal*, *Holland*, and the *Spanish Indies*, is three Millions and a half.

Now what is all this but the Price given for the Value of Corn, Manufactures, Sugars, Tobacco's, *East-India* and other Goods exported from *England* to those Countrys? But if no more Money shall hereafter be return'd, must we not for ever lose our Markets for so many of those Goods? Will not the Gentleman lose so much of his Share of that Money as is now paid him in his Rents? Must not the Merchant lose his Gains;
the

the Labourer his Hire, upon all those Exportations. Therefore to distinguish and separate these things, to shew how much of those three Millions and a half is the Price or Reward of mere *English* Labour, is the Medium or Argument to shew how many of our People must lose their Employment or Subsistence by the Loss of so many of our foreign Markets.

Of all the Corn which is exported, the Gentleman has a considerable Share, and not a little must be allow'd for the Farmers and the Merchants Gains. Yet when the Ploughman, the Seedsman, the Reaper, the Thresher, the Carrier, the Smith, the Carpenter, the Seaman, and innumerable other Persons shall all be paid for the Labour which they have bestow'd upon it; there is just reason to believe that four parts in five of the Price given in a foreign Market, is the Price of *English* Labour.

Our Woollen Manufactures which are carry'd to those Markets, are generally of the finest sorts, and the double Value of all our other Exportations. But the Shares of the Gentleman and Farmer are only the Value of the Wool, which perhaps is not above 6 *d.* per pound, after the Shepherd is paid his Wages, whilst the same in Manufacture shall be more than twenty times that Value. The Merchant so near home will hardly expect

not more than a twentieth part of the Value for his Gains; and consequently nine parts in ten of the whole Price, is the Price of *English Labour*.

The Sugars and Tobacco's of our Plantations, are the Purchase of our Manufactures, and chiefly those of Woollen; and when the Merchants Gains upon so many of these Goods as are exported shall be deducted, at least four parts in five of the Price which is return'd, is the Price of *English Labour*.

Lastly, our *East-India* Goods are sold to our Neighbour Nations at ten times as great a Price as is given for them in the *East-Indies*; and if it shall be consider'd in how great a length of Time, and from what distance of Place they are carry'd to those Markets, at least 20 *per Cent.* or one fifth part of the last Value must be allow'd for the Merchants Gains: and if these with the first Cost shall be deducted, yet more than three Fifths of their last Value are upon the account of *English Labour*.

Our Woollen Manufactures do so much exceed all our other Exportations, and the Value of Labour in the former is so much more than six seventh parts of the whole, that tho it shou'd fall short in other Goods, yet the Price of Labour at a Medium in all our Exportations, will
at

at the least amount to six seventh Parts of the whole; and consequently if by yielding *Spain* to the Duke of *Anjou*, we shall lose our Markets for our Goods to the Value of three Millions and a half, as is prov'd before, we shall lose our Markets for *English* Labour of six seventh Parts of that Price, or of the Value of three Millions.

I think it evidently follows, that we shall lose Employment and Subsistence for so many of our People as are annually maintain'd at the Charge of three Millions; and how great that number is, is next to be enquir'd.

Sir *William Petty*, comprehending all sorts of People from the Prince to the Parish Poor, affirms that the whole Mass are annually maintain'd at the Charge of seven Pounds *per* Head at a Medium: but I make no doubt if Gentlemen, Merchants, considerable Traders and their Familys shall be distinguish'd and separated from the poor Labourers, their Wives and Children, all this latter sort are yearly subsisted for six Pound *per an.* a Head at a Medium. Now there being five hundred thousand times this Sum in three Millions of Mony, it follows that five hundred thousand of our People will be depriv'd of their Employment and Subsistence by the Cession of *Spain* to the Duke of *Anjou*; and in consequence of

that, by the Loss of our foreign Markets for English Labour of that Value.

The Loss of
our domestic
Trade
as great.

This we shall lose by so great an Abatement of our foreign Exportations. But our Loss will be as great by the Diminution of our Manufactures for the Consumption of our own People.

By the
want of
Spanish
Wool :

In the first place, we shall have no more Wool from Spain, for the reason that has been already given. To which nothing more need be added, than that the French King has just now shewn his Authority in Spain, by prohibiting all manner of Commerce betwixt the Dutch and the Spaniards, on purpose to increase the Impatience of the former for a Peace, by the want of that Wool to employ their People. Indeed he seems of late to be in much better humour with England; perhaps he believes he has better Friends among us. But if a Peace shall once leave Spain in his power, all that Wool will be then engross'd by France. It is easy to see that the greatest part of Wiltshire, and some other places, will be depriv'd of their Subsistence by the Loss of that noble Manufacture.

Of Raw
Silk from
Persia and
the Le-
vant :

Again, So much of our Spanish Cloth as is not us'd at home, is exported to Persia and the Levant for the raw Silks of those places; another great Foundation for the Employment of our People.

We

We shall have no more of that Cloth to export; but we need not be in any great pain for this, since for the reasons before-mention'd we shall be depriv'd of our whole Trade to the *Levant*, and shall of our selves abandon that of the *East-Indies*. So for the time to come we shall be able to procure none of those Silks for either Mony or Manufacture. Thousands of Looms must stand still upon this account, and almost numberless Throwers, Spinners, and other People, Men, Women, and Children, that work to every Loom.

But tho those Silks cou'd be still procur'd, our very Poverty wou'd oblige us to content our selves with a coarser sort of Manufactures, and we shou'd be utterly disabled to purchase the finest of our own Growth. And if for our own Consumption we must change our Stuffs for Kerseys, even this way great numbers of People will be depriv'd of their Subsistence, since the greatest Numbers are employ'd by the finest Manufactures. This is as certain, as that it is less Labour to spin two hundred Yards from a Pound of Wool than two thousand, one thousand from a Pound of Silk than ten thousand, and ten thousand from a Pound of Flax than thrice as great a length.

Lastly,

By degenerating into coarser Manufactures,

And growing better Husbands of our Clothes;

Lastly, Besides that we shall be reduc'd to greater Plainness and Simplicity of Dress, the same Poverty will oblige us to be better Husbands of our Clothes. We shall no longer leave them off because they are out of fashion, but because they are worn out. 'Tis certain very great Numbers are now constantly employ'd to furnish these Supplies to our Luxury.

'Tis not very easy to adjust the particular Value of every one of these Losses; but I believe any Man's Reason will suggest to him that the Loss of so much of our Trade at home must necessarily deprive as great Numbers of their Employment and Subsistence, as the Loss of that abroad. And thus a Million of Souls, a sixth or seventh part of our whole People, must either starve or live at the Charge of all the rest.

And by the Ruin of our more considerable Traders.

And yet this will not be our whole Increase of Poor: Many of our Merchants and considerable Traders, who labour very little themselves, but derive great Gains from buying and selling the Labour of other People, will by the Loss of so many of their Markets both at home and abroad, instead of contributing large Sums to the Publick by Customs or otherwise, become themselves a part of the Publick Charge; instead

stead of flourishing with Coach and Equipage, are very likely to come upon the Poors Books, and increase the Parish-Rates.

For my own part then, I shall no longer wonder that the *Examiner*, and such other Writers, are so full of their Invectives against Trade and a Trading Interest, as if the Interest of the Nation were no concern'd in the Preservation of Trade. As for these Men, I consider them as so many second-hand Hirelings to carry on the Interest of *France*. But 'tis wonderful to read such things in the Writings of some of our Reverend Divines, to find them also inveighing against Trade, as if it were the Cause of all the Schisms and Heresys in the World; and recommending the old Patriarchal ways of Cowkeeping and Agriculture as more innocent Imployments for the People.

Wou'd they have us increase in these things, when we have already so much more of them than are sufficient for our People? when we abound so much in Cattle, that we will not suffer any more to be imported upon us by our Fellow Subjects? and in Corn, that we give Bountys to our Neighbours to take it off our Hands?

But are Bread and Meat the only Necessaries of Life? Are not Clothes
and

and Manufactures as necessary to our Wellbeing? Or shall they, who have the whole Property of the Lands make Clothes for themselves? And shall not the rest of the People be able to buy Bread and Meat in Exchange for their Manufactures?

Or what do these Reverend Persons mean? Wou'd they have us naked, that they may clothe us? hungry, that they may feed us? Tho their Charity is very great, it can never be equal to the Wants of such Multitudes.

It is still less to be imagin'd, that they wou'd first make us poor, that they may afterwards make us Orthodox. They know very well, that extreme Poverty is as great a Temptation to Sin as too much Riches; and that starving our Bodys is not the way to save our Souls.

And 'tis yet less to be suspected that holy Men, without any secular Ends, who are separated from the World, and dedicated to God's Altar, shou'd ever intend the Impoverishment of the People, the better to assure themselves of their Subjection; that they shou'd have any Design so wicked as the establishing their own Dominion upon the Ruin of their Country.

But

But whosoever the Person is, whether of the Clergy or the Laity, of whatsoever Quality or Degree, and for whatsoever Reasons or Pretences, that shou'd go about to deprive the Nation of so great a part of their Trade, so great a part of the People of their daily Bread, such a Man wou'd surely be impeach'd of the highest Crime and Misdemeanor by the general Voice of the Kingdom. There cannot be the least fear that the common People, against whom so much Mischief is intended, wou'd be guilty of any Riot or Insurrection, to prevent the doing Justice upon such an Offender.

And tis yet less to be conceiv'd that Gentlemen, Ladies, and Persons of superior Quality, shou'd take part with such a Criminal, and conspire to do him Honour; since their Sufferings will be yet greater than those of the Common People by so great a Loss of Trade. Gentlemen are therefore more nearly concern'd to prevent the yielding up of *Spain* to the Duke of *Anjou*, whence this and all the other Consequences I have mention'd are unavoidable.

For, in the first Place, do they imagine, that by the Loss of so many Markets for our Corn, Manufactures, and other things, their Rents will not be affected? *By the Loss of Spain, and so much of our Trade, Genl.*

G

Gcn'lemen
must lose
three 4th
Parts of
the Value
of their
whole
Estates.

affected? Or is it possible they shou'd not be affected? These things that are annually parted and sold from the Farm, are not mere Labour, but Labour mixt with the Produce of the Lands; and therefore if the Produce of the Lands shall continue still the same, and the Purchasers shall be fewer, the Rent or Value of the Estate must needs be abated.

This must make a sensible Diminution of the Rents, but by that which follows they must tumble down apace. 'Tis certain we shall be oblig'd, as is prov'd before, to issue annually great Sums of Mony out of *England*; and if by giving up *Spain* we shall be disabled to import any fresh Supplies, it must follow, that in the Space of not very many Years, the whole Kingdom will be exhausted, and there will not be sufficient Mony left to answer the Rents of any one Gentleman's Estate. This must needs lessen the Value of the Estate, unless it shall be affirm'd that the Produce of the Lands will remain as valuable after the Loss of all our Mony, and as little burden'd to the Gentleman.

But how shou'd the Produce of the Land be as valuable without Mony? Will the Barter or Exchange of Goods be as easy and commodious? Will it furnish

furnish the Gentleman with as many Conveniences of Life? The very Supposition is ridiculous, and to put it only is to expose it.

Again, after what has been said, how is it possible the Estate shou'd be as little burden'd? Only so much of the Profits of the Estate are coming to the Gentleman, as are not paid away to Publick or Parish Taxes. But if all publick Taxes shou'd cease, how much must those to the Parish be encreas'd, by such a Burden of new Poor as I have describ'd? They will have no whither to fly, but to the Lands for a Maintenance; A Million of new Poor will hardly be subsisted for less than five Pounds *per Head*, or the whole Number for less than five Millions *per Annum*. And how much less is this than ten Shillings in the Pound, or half the full Value of all the Rents in *England*? And 'tis probable, that more than half of what remains will be lost, with so many Markets for our Goods, and by the want of Money to facilitate our Exchanges. And if three Fourths of the annual Value of the Estate shall be lost, the Estate must needs fall three Fourths of the Value in the Purchase.

Gentlemen will hardly believe that so great a Fall is possible. But if they will please to consult an excellent Book, call'd,

The Account of Denmark, they will find there, that Estates fell three Fourths of their Value in the Purchase, and that few Purchasers were to be found even upon those Terms: And all this only by the Change of their Government, from a Limited to an Absolute Monarchy; or in other words, from a Prince that was bound to govern according to Laws, to one that was not to be resisted upon any Pretence whatsoever. And if we will but put *Spain* under the Power of *France*, we too in the Space of a few Years shall be reduc'd to such Poverty and Weakness, as to change our Limited for an Absolute Monarchy, not the Absolute Monarchy of a Prince of our own Growth, but of a *French Man*, a *Papist*, and a *Tyrant*.

I hope these Gentlemen have kept very exact Accounts of their Debts, and have very well consider'd how small a Part of their Estates will be sufficient for their own use; for if their Debts shou'd happen to be equal to a fourth Part of the present Value of their whole Estates, then, by the Loss of three Fourths of that Value, and by satisfying their Creditors with the remaining fourth Part, there will remain nothing for themselves. And thus they who are so weary of paying Four Shillings in the Pound to the War, will, by giving up *Spain*, give their whole Estates for a Peace.

Nothing

Nothing is more miserable than to fall from a Life of Luxury and Ease. Happy had it been for these Gentlemen if they had always liv'd by their daily Labour; the Grievance wou'd be less, when they come to the Parish for Subsistence. But how wretched will the Condition be of those gay Ladys, who sparkle every afternoon in the Ring? or blaze every Night in the Boxes? How will those soft Hands be made to work? How will those Complexions agree with Morning-Air? And yet very Hunger will not let them sleep. But lastly, what will become of the Race of the finest Fox-hunters in the World? They may e'en feed their Dogs with their Horses; and when they have done, they may hang up all their Dogs. It will be no time for Sports and Diversions, when they shall be entertain'd every where with Scenes of Horror; when they shall be no where able to turn their Eyes, without seeing the Ruin and Desolation of their Country, and yet shall be no where able to see more miserable Creatures than themselves.

And yet we have pretended Patriots, that wou'd rather see all these things, than lose sight of the Pretender, or expect the House of *Hanover*. These perhaps may fondly imagine, they shall sell their Country dear, and obtain advantageous

tageous Terms for themselves. But how well soever the *French* King may love their Treason, he cannot fail to hate the Traitors.

In the Estimate I have made of the Losses which this Kingdom will suffer by yielding *Spain* to the Duke of *Anjou*, I do not believe I have reach'd the full Value of any one Loss. It is sufficient for my purpose if I have demonstrated, that not any one of our Losses can be less, than is set down in this Estimate.

For what
Reasons a
Parlia-
ment about
three years
ago ad-
dress'd her
Majesty not
to make
Peace
without
the Resti-
tution of
Spain.

It is not then to be wonder'd at if the Parliament, about three years since, address'd her Majesty not to consent to a Peace, without the entire Restitution of *Spain* to the House of *Austria*; so many wise Heads in that Parliament cou'd not but foresee, that the Consequences of yielding *Spain* to the Duke of *Anjou* wou'd be as I have prov'd.

1. The Loss of Three Millions and a Half of annual Income by foreign Trade; a Sum which more than ballances all our foreign Expences even during the present War.

2. The annual Expence of Half a Million, without any Income of Money by our foreign Markets.

3. The

3. The Loss of Imployment and Subsistence for at least a Million of Souls, a sixth or seventh part of the whole People.

4. and Lastly, The Reduction of all Estates to one fourth part of their present Value, to the utter Impoverishment of all the Landholders in *Great Britain*. These certainly were sufficient Reasons for that Address, and those noble Persons who advis'd it, deserve eternal Thanks from their Country.

What then shall be thought of those Wretches, who have the Confidence to tell us, that this was a monstrous step in Politicks? A Proceeding which, to People Abroad, must look like the highest strain of Temerity, Folly and Gasconade; a desperate, unprecedented Counsel, to gratify the unmeasurable Appetites of a few Leaders; to pin down the War upon us; to multiply Difficulties on the Queen and Kingdom. What shall be thought of those Miscreants, who have dar'd to offer a Comparison between the Parliament which made this Address, and that which began the Rebellion against King *Charles* the First, voted his Trial, and appointed his Murderers?

Yet

Yet this is the Language of the *Examiner* of Thursday, *April* 26. *Numb.* 39. but because I wou'd not wrong him, I shall transcribe his very words, which are as follows: " And here we cannot
 " refuse the late M ———y their due
 " Praises, who foreseeing a Storm, provided for their own Safety, by two
 " admirable Expedients, by which,
 " with great Prudence, they have escap'd the Punishments due to pernicious Counsels and corrupt Management. The first was to procure, under pretences hardly specious, a General Act of Indemnity, which cuts off all Impeachments. The second was yet more refin'd: Suppose, for Instance, a Counsel is to be pursu'd, which is necessary to carry on the dangerous Designs of a prevailing Party, to preserve them in Power, to gratify the unmeasurable Appetites of a few Leaders, Civil and Military, tho by hazarding the Ruin of the whole Nation: This Counsel, desperate in it self, unprecedented in the Nature of it, they procure a Majority to form into an Address, which makes it look like the Sense of the Nation. Under that Shelter they carry on their Work, and lie secure against After-reckonings.

" I must

“ I must be so free to tell my Meaning
 “ in this, that among other Things, I
 “ understand it of the Address made to
 “ the Qu—— about three Years ago, to
 “ desire that Her M——y wou’d not
 “ consent to a Peace, without the entire
 “ Restitution of *Sp — n*. A Proceed-
 “ ing, which to People Abroad, must
 “ look like the highest Strain of Teme-
 “ rity, Folly, and Gasconade. But we
 “ at Home, who allow the Promoters of
 “ that Advice to be no Fools, can ea-
 “ sily comprehend the Depth and My-
 “ stery of it. They were assur’d by this
 “ means to pin down the War upon
 “ us, consequently to encrease their own
 “ Power and Wealth, and multiply
 “ Difficulties on the Qu—— and King-
 “ dom, till they had fix’d their Party
 “ too firmly to be shaken, whenever
 “ they shou’d find themselves dispos’d
 “ to reverse their Address, and give us
 “ leave to wish for a Peace.

“ If any Man entertains a more fa-
 “ vourable Opinion of this monstrous
 “ Step in Politicks; I wou’d ask him
 “ what we must do, in case we find it
 “ impossible to recover *Spain*? Those
 “ among the *Whigs* who believe a GOD,
 “ will confess, that the Events of War
 “ lie in his Hands; and the rest of
 “ them, who acknowledg no such Power,
 “ will allow, that *Fortune* hath too great

H

“ a

“ a share in the good or ill Success of
 “ Military Actions, to let a wise Man
 “ reason upon them, as if they were
 “ entirely in his Power. If Providence
 “ shall think fit to refuse Success to our
 “ Arms, with how ill a Grace, with
 “ what Shame and Confusion, shall we
 “ be oblig’d to recant that precipitate
 “ Address, unless the World will be so
 “ charitable to consider, that Parlia-
 “ ments among us differ as much as
 “ Princes, and that by the fatal Con-
 “ junction of many unhappy Circum-
 “ stances, it is very possible for our Island
 “ to be represented sometimes by those
 “ who have the least Pretensions to it?
 “ So little Truth or Justice there is in
 “ what some pretend to advance, that
 “ the Actions of former Senates ought
 “ always to be treated with Respect by
 “ the latter; that those Assemblies are
 “ all equally venerable, and no one to
 “ be prefer’d before another: By which
 “ Argument, the Parliament that be-
 “ gan the Rebellion against K. *Charles*
 “ the First, voted his Tryal, and ap-
 “ pointed his Murderers, ought to be re-
 “ membr’d with Respect.”

Thus far the *Examiner*: And now I
 must take leave to reason a little with
 this wonderful Statesman; only first I
 must beseech you to remember I have
 already prov’d, That during the present
 War greater Quantities of Bullion are
 gain’d

gain'd and imported into *England*, than are carry'd out upon any Pretence whatsoever; That on the contrary, by Peace, and the Duke of *Anjou* on the *Spanish* Throne, great Quantities will every year be carry'd out, and none will be imported; That vast Multitudes of People, who now subsist by their own Labour, must then live at the Charge of the Landholders, and that consequently the Estates of these Men will be more severely tax'd to such a Peace than to the present War.

Is then the Ruin of the whole Nation hazarded by those Leaders, who have every year torn a Limb from the formidable Enemy of *Europe*, and are now stabbing him at the Heart? And wou'd not the Ruin of the Gentlemen, the common People, and the whole Kingdom be unavoidable, if *Spain* shou'd be left in his Power by a Peace? Was it not fit then for the great Council of the Nation, to *address* the Sovereign to continue the War, which (thanks be to Almighty God) does not ruin the Kingdom, and which every Year brings us so much nearer to our wish'd for Happiness and Security? Was it not fit to advise her Majesty against the making a Peace, which, in a little time, must prove the utter Ruin and Desolation of all her Countrys? Where then was this *desperate Counsel*; this *unprecedented Proceeding*;

ceeding; this monstrous Step in Politicks; this high Strain of Temerity, Folly and Gasconade? Was there any bold undertaking for the Providence of God in this Address? Was it any thing else but the Choice of Hopes by a War, rather than of certain Ruin by a Peace? What a Monster then must this prostitute Writer appear, who has had the Impudence to compare the Parliament which presented this Address, and to whose timely Supplys we are, by God's Blessing, indebted for great part of our Successes, to that Rabble of Men, who voted the Trial of King Charles the First, and appointed his Murderers?

" If Providence, says this able Statesman, shall think fit to refuse Success to our Arms, with how ill a Grace, with what Shame and Confusion shall we be oblig'd to recant that precipitate Address?" I answer, if Providence shou'd hearken to the Prayers of such Wretches, and visit us for our Sins, with as ill Success as they desire; we must however put our Trust in God, we must still fight on; a War for the Recovery of Spain, cannot be so ruinous as a Peace, by which it shall be given up to the House of Bourbon.

Behold now this applauded Writer of your Party! this Weekly Director of the whole Kingdom! What Tenderness

ness he has for the poor People, who are so grievously burden'd to carry on the War ! This excellent Patriot wou'd have the Gentlemen give their whole Estates, the Labourers their Hire, and the whole Kingdom her foreign Revenue for a Peace. This he wou'd have done, that *Difficultys may not be multiply'd on the Queen and Kingdom.*

Yet this Author, his Correspondent, *The Invec-*
and his other Fellow-Scriblers, are the *tives of*
Men who are to set us right in Poli- *the Exa-*
ticks. They say, " It is notorious we *miner and*
" might have had a good Peace ever *his Fellow-*
" since the Battel of *Ramellies* ; that *Scriblers*
" from that time the War has been car- *against the*
" ry'd on to gratify the unmeasurable *late Mini-*
" Appetites of a few Leaders ; that *stry.*
" *Spain* has been neglected to promote
" the Glory of a General in *Flanders* ;
" that the Ministers have thought fit to
" borrow Mony for every Year's Ser-
" vice upon the Credit of long Funds,
" and we have been oblig'd to mortgage
" Posterity to carry on a War for our
" selves ; that God and Man were no
" longer able to endure the late Mini-
" stry, and it was high time for the
" Queen to make Choice of such a Set
" of Men, as wou'd restore us Peace
" and better Management."

But now give me leave to ask these *For the*
noble Patriots, if a good Peace might *same things*
have *are done*
by the New.

have been had ever since the Battel of *Ramellies*, why have not the New M——y procur'd it in all this time, since they have succeeded to the Powers of the Old? They know very well the *French* King has never yet consented to part with *Spain*, and that Peace without it wou'd be more ruinous than War.

Again, If our Leaders have been such Monsters, why have not the New M——rs advis'd her Majesty to part with them? Why is the Duke of *Marlborough* still continu'd? But they know there is not so great a Man as he, who has sav'd all *Germany*, recover'd all the *Netherlands*, and by drawing the greatest part of the *French* Forces upon himself, has enabled the Confederates to drive the rest out of *Italy*. For these reasons he is so justly esteem'd by the New M——rs as well as the Old, and will always deserve the Veneration of other Ages and other Countrys, how ungratefully soever he may be us'd in his own. He stood not in need of any ill Success in *Spain*, to render his Glory more conspicuous in *Flanders*.

Again, How has *Spain* been more neglected by the Old M——rs than the New? What Supplys have been sent thither since the Battels of *Almenara* and *Saragossa*? Yet God forbid that for this the New M——rs shou'd be blam'd:
but

but the Experience of the present War, and especially the unfortunate Consequences of those Glorious Victories, have convinc'd Mankind that the Stress of the War is properly laid in *Flanders*, and that the way to recover *Spain*, is to pierce into the Heart of *France*.

Lastly, Why are the Old M———rs more blam'd than the New, for borrowing upon long Funds? for mortgaging Posterity to the Maintenance of the present War? Was ever more Mony taken up in this manner in any one Year, than in the present? Indeed since the Parliament have never yet thought fit to lay the whole Charge of any one Year upon the Profits of the same Year, neither the Old M———rs nor the New are to be blam'd for taking the Mony as the Parliament think fit to give it. And some perhaps will think that Posterity ought to bear some part of the Burden of the present War, as well as to share the Benefit of the Peace.

Behold. then what noble Advocates *The New* these are for the New M———rs, who *Ministers* wou'd persuade us that neither God nor *justly ap-* Man cou'd any longer endure the Old *plauded,* for those very things that are done every *without any* day by the New! Without doubt her *derogation* Majesty had very good reasons to make *from the* the Change, and every good Subject will *Merits of* acquiesce in her Pleasure. But without *the Old.* any

any derogation from the Old M——rs, the New are very justly to be applauded for endeavouring to raise publick Credit, which was so much sunk by the Change, and for their vigorous Application to the War for the Recovery of *Spain*, without which *England* must be ruin'd.

I have not, Sir, been offering these Arguments to a Man of your Judgment and Penetration, as if I thought you needed to be convinc'd of the Necessity of our going on still with the War; but rather in hopes to incline you to make use of the Authority you so justly have among the Clergy, the Gentry, and the common People of your Party, to persuade them that *Spain* must be recover'd, Trade must be preserv'd, or else every one of them will be undone. Your own Reason will suggest a multitude of Arguments to strengthen your Authority, and yet I flatter my self that this Letter will furnish some Hints which are not improper for this purpose.

Expostulations with those of the Clergy who are for giving Spain for a Peace.

To begin with the Clergy: I wou'd be understood only of those of your Party. If Lands shall fall three fourths in their Rents or yearly Value, will not the Glebe or Tithe of the Parson be reduc'd to the same Condition? And where is that Clergyman who wou'd give such a Part of his Living for a Peace?

Uni-

Universal Poverty may possibly be the way to one Opinion in Religion: But where is that self-denying Minister of the Gospel, who wou'd give three Fourths of his Tithes to have all his People Orthodox, to have no Heresy or Schism in his Parish?

They may perhaps imagine the same Poverty will make way for a more absolute Dominion of the Priesthood. But which of all those Priests wou'd give the greatest part of his Subsistence for more Power? Which of them wou'd desire to be the starving Ruler of a starving People?

If *Spain* shall be left in the Possession of the *French* King by a Peace, mere Poverty will soon bring *England* and all *Europe* under the *French* Dominion. And then will any Priest of the Church of *England* be able to live or rule in his own Parish, without changing his Religion? And is the Change to Popery so very easy?

We have seen Addresses for breaking a Parliament that impeach'd one of that Order for preaching Principles inconsistent with our present Establishment; but wou'd not all the Clergy address for the Punishment of such a Man as shou'd dare to inflame the People by his Sermons, to the Desire of a Peace that must impose Popery and Poverty upon the
 I King-

Kingdom? upon the Parson as well as the whole Parish?

Perhaps they may fondly flatter themselves that the *French* King will take nothing from them, and that he will even reward them for their Service. But is any thing more natural than for Princes, when vested with all the Power they desire, to forget the Instruments that brought them to it?

But if those of the Clergy might still be suffer'd to enjoy their Religion and Livings, and if even their Revenues and Power might be increas'd for their good Service; wou'd they be pleas'd to see Ruin and Desolation every where round about them? Wou'd they inflame their Followers to the Desire of a Peace, which must prove more destructive to them than the most cruel War? Wou'd they make use of their Authority and Interest in their several Parishes to ruin a Gentry, and a common People, who are so fondly, I had almost said blindly, devoted to them?

With the
Gentry who
are for do-
ing the
same thing.

But certainly the Gentry cannot always be so very blind; they must needs open their Eyes at so near an Approach of their own Danger. For can it be believ'd, that together with *Spain* they wou'd give away all their best Markets? or that the Produce of the Lands wou'd be still as valuable after the Loss of those Markets?

Wou'd

Wou'd Gentlemen be pleas'd to see great Sums of Mony exported every year, and no new Supplis return'd? To see a Million of poor People thrown upon their Estates, and scarce any part of the Profits left for their own Subsistence? To see three parts in four of the annual and total Value of every Estate in the Kingdom lost for ever by these Articles?

Wou'd the Gentleman who is out of debt be able to live as well upon one fourth Part of the Estate as the Whole? And he that is indebted in one fourth Part of the whole Value, be able to live as well, when the Whole shall be taken from him for the Satisfaction of his Creditors?

And how wou'd all these Gentlemen, their Ladys, their Sons and Daughters, relish the parting with their present Luxury and Pleasure, for a wretched Subsistence by Parish-Alms or hard Labour?

And yet all these things are unavoidable Consequences of yielding Spain to the Duke of Anjou.

I believe Gentlemen are weary of paying Four Shillings in the Pound to the War; but which of them wou'd not chuse to double his Taxes, rather than give his whole Estate for a Peace?

I 2

Some

Some perhaps are not pleas'd with the Revolution, and less with the Protestant Succession, and the perpetual Breach which That has made upon the Hereditary Right of the Crown. Such perhaps may think that to wrest *Spain* from the House of *Bourbon*, is to disable *France* from imposing the Pretender upon these Kingdoms. But if the Loss of *Spain* will have such ill Consequences, what Gentleman wou'd give his Estate to have the Pretender for his King? or reduce himself to Beggary, to disappoint the House of *Hanover*?

If any one is so fond as to imagine he shall be well rewarded by *France*, and that at the least he shall make a saving Bargain for himself; yet wou'd he be so cruel to his Country? Wou'd he have no regard to those poor People that blindly follow his Authority?

And lastly,
with the
Common
People that
are impa-
tient for
such a
Peace.

But lastly, for the common People of *England*, they have heretofore judg'd very well of their own Interest; how come they now to pin their Faith upon the *Sir John*, the *Sir Thomas*, or the Parson of the Parish? How is it that they are all on a sudden become the blind Followers of any Authority whatsoever?

Wou'd the Farmers or Freeholders be pleas'd with that Gentleman, who shou'd endeavour that their Malt or Wool might be

be left upon their hands? Yet this perhaps won'd be the Consequence of importing *French* Wines, and lessening the Consumption of our Corn and Manufactures in *Portugal*; but this must needs be the Consequence of yielding *Spain* to the Duke of *Anjou*, and putting our whole Trade under the power of *France*.

Greater Numbers of our *Wiltshire* People are maintain'd by making *Spanish* Cloth, than cou'd possibly be subsisted in the meanest manner imaginable by the whole Rents of that Country. But if *Spain* shall be given up, all the *Spanish* Wool will be engross'd by *France*, and our Manufacturer must live upon the Landholder. And can it then be thought that either of them won'd vote for such a P———t as shou'd be careless for the Recovery of *Spain*, or shou'd give that Kingdom for a Peace?

London, *Canterbury*, *Normich*, and other populous Citys support very great Numbers of their People by the Manufacture of Silks. I think I have prov'd that the Loss of *Spain* will be follow'd by that of our raw Silks: and then what numbers must be starv'd? Has not *London* alone seen an Insurrection of twenty thousand Weavers upon any sudden and temporary Scarcity of that Commodity? And what then are we to expect, when they shall all be depriv'd of it for ever?

Perhaps

Perhaps it may be thought we are out of danger of any future Insurrection of the common People for their Bread, or for any other cause, unless for the Defence of Passive Obedience and Non-Resistance. But tho they wou'd not rise for want of Bread, yet wou'd they chuse such Men for their Representatives in P———t, as together with *Spain* wou'd abandon the Subsistence of so many People?

I think I have prov'd that our finest Manufactures employ the greatest Numbers, and that our very Poverty upon the Loss of *Spain* wou'd oblige us all to content our selves with the coarsest sorts. And what then will become of numberless Hands that are every where employ'd in the finest Manufactures for the Consumption of our own Country? How shall half a Million be subsisted, that will be reduc'd by all these Articles?

When they shall have lost so many Markets at home, will they still work on for those abroad? But how is this possible, when it is also prov'd that the Loss of *Spain* will be attended with the Loss of so many of our foreign Markets, and of Subsistence for half a Million of our People?

And

And can a sixth or seventh part of the whole Nation be reduc'd to the unhappy Necessity of living upon the rest, and will not the whole Kingdom be impoverish'd? Will not the Misery be universal? And are not all these apparent Consequences of yielding *Spain* to the Duke of *Anjou*?

What then must all Mankind think of the *Examiner* and his Friends, who wou'd have us buy our Peace upon these Terms? What else can our Clergy, our Gentry, our common People think of such a Wretch, than that he is in the Interest of the Enemy?

But if such are the Consequences of the Peace which is recommended to us, who will not be for going on with the War? If the Loss of *Spain* will cause such universal Ruin, what Man is there, from the Lord to the Peasant, that wou'd not excise a fourth or fifth part of his Subsistence to recover it? Who wou'd not pay a fourth or fifth part of the Price of all he eats, or drinks, or wears, towards carrying on the War, rather than a bad Peace shou'd leave him neither Bread, nor Meat, nor Clothes, but at the Mercy of *France*?

But I forget what I am doing: An earnest Concern for the universal Safety and Welfare of my whole Country, has drawn

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drawn me to exceed the Bounds of a Letter. It is time now to conclude, and to assure you that I am,

S I R,

Your very Humble Servant.

POST.



ERRAT.

Page 36. line 14. for export read exped.

POSTSCRIPT.

S I R,

YOU have much less in this printed Letter, than I sent you in the Manuscript: For besides the Argument, *pag.* 30, 31, 32, 33. taken from our foreign Expences, our flourishing Condition, the Course of Exchange in our favour, and the great voluntary Contributions of our own Countrymen to the Publick, to prove that our annual Income or Gain from foreign Trade is three Millions and a half; you had also the Gain or Ballance upon our several Trades with *Spain, Portugal, the Spanish Indies, and the Netherlands*, which amount to that Sum. But this, by reason of the great length, I have left out of the printed Letter, to save the Reader's Time, and because I thought the former Argument without it a sufficient Demonstration of that Income. But upon perusal of the Letter, I find that with those Papers, I have unwarily thrown aside a Proposition, which makes a necessary part of my Argument, to prove the Value of our Loss by yielding *Spain*

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to

to the Duke of *Anjou*, viz. That by this Cession and its Consequences we shall lose our whole Income of Money from abroad. This I think is sufficiently prov'd by the former part of my Letter; for it is certain that the Mines of *Peru*, *Mexico*, and *Brazile*, furnish the whole Bullion and current Coin of every Country in *Europe*: any Gentleman who thinks otherwise, is desir'd to inform us of any other Mines which will be worth the Charge of working. Now if all these Places, as I have prov'd, will be brought under the Jurisdiction of the *French King*, and he shou'd regulate their Commerce in such a manner, that none of their Riches shall be diverted from himself and his Subjects; then whether we fetch our Bullion immediately from those Countrys, from *Spain* and *Portugal*, from *Holland* or any other place, it follows we shall fetch none hereafter, and shall consequently by that Cession lose our whole Income of Money or Bullion by our foreign Trade. This Proposition therefore I must desire the Reader to insert in *pag. 30.* before the Proof that our present annual Income is three Millions and a half. And then the Argument will run thus: By the Cession of *Spain* we shall lose our whole Income or Gain by foreign Trade; our present annual Income or Gain is three Millions and a half: We shall therefore by that Cession lose the annual Income or Gain of three Millions and a half.

One

One thing more I cannot forbear mentioning: It is said there are Letters by the last Mail from *Holland*, that the Duke of *Anjou* has absolutely prohibited all manner of Commerce betwixt *Spain* and *Great Britain*. If *France* has done this, and will be able to carry it thro, any Man, without the Spirit of Prophecy, may pronounce that *Great Britain* will be ruin'd. But why the *French* King has not presum'd to do this thro the whole Course of this War, and how it comes to pass that after we have given him so many Defeats, he shou'd dare to make such a Prohibition at this time, is, I confess, a Matter above my Speculation.

[F I N I S .

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